

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 1-10

Interpretation  
Inference

Objective: Relating literature to life

## Activity

Adults play an interesting role in *Ender's Game*. At the beginning of every chapter, Colonel Graff and other commanders discuss the fate of the children in the story. Their plans determine what happens to Ender, Valentine, and others. From the beginning, however, it is clear that the adults are depending on the children. They need Ender to succeed in Battle School so that he can lead the International Fleet in the fight against the buggers. Ender's daily life is very different from the lives of other children. He acts and speaks like an adult, not like a young child. Peter and Valentine also act like adults when they participate in serious political online forums as Locke and Demosthenes.

At the beginning of chapter 10, Colonel Graff discusses Ender's progress with a high-ranking major. He explains that it is time to promote Ender to be the commander of his own army:

"Now?"

"I suppose so."

"It has to be an order, Colonel Graff. Armies don't move because a commander says I suppose it's time to attack."

"I'm not a commander. I'm a teacher of little children."

"Colonel, sir, I admit I was on you, I admit I was a pain in the ass, but it worked, everything worked just like you wanted it to. The last few weeks Ender's even been, been—"

"Happy."

"Content. He's doing well. His mind is keen, his play is excellent. Young as he is, we've never had a boy better prepared for command. Usually they go at eleven, but at nine and a half he's top flight." (Pg. 154)

Although Ender does not resist his promotion to commanding officer of Dragon army, he grows increasingly suspicious of the decisions made by the adults. Card writes:

...from that day forward they could never hurt him deep enough to make him cry again. Ender was certain of that.

And with that anger, he decided he was strong enough to defeat them—the teachers, his enemies. (Pg. 172)

- I. Compare the role of adults in Ender's life to the role of adults in your own life. Complete the following questionnaire. Study all previous chapters to gather information about Ender's relationship to the adults in his life. Be honest and frank about your own experiences.